

Forest Service Plumas National Forest Beckwourth Ranger District P.O. Box 7 23 Mohawk Road Blairsden, CA 96103 Tahoe National Forest Sierraville Ranger District P.O. Box 95 317 South Lincoln Street Sierraville, CA 96126

File Code:

1950

Date:

October 3, 2017

Greetings,

The Plumas National Forest, Beckwourth Ranger District and the Tahoe National Forest, Sierraville Ranger District are soliciting scoping comments on the Beckwourth Peak Recreation Project. The objectives of this project are to: 1) provide recreation access to the Beckwourth Peak area on the Plumas and Tahoe National Forests, and 2) provide additional recreation opportunities which may relieve recreation pressure in other heavily-used areas. In development and preparation of this project, we are seeking the participation of interested persons, State and local Governments, and Native American tribes. Your comments at this early stage provide valuable information regarding project design.

The project is located immediately south and east of Portola in Plumas County, California. The project area includes National Forest System lands on the Plumas National Forest, Beckwourth Ranger District and on the Tahoe National Forest, Sierraville Ranger District. The project area occupies portions of Township 22 North, Range 13 East, Sections 13, 14, and 22-24; Township 22 North, Range 14 East, Sections 5-9, 17, and 18; and Township 23 North, Range 14 East, Section 31, Mt. Diablo Base Meridian.

The proposed activities include construction of approximately 20 miles of trails to be added to the National Forest System. The trails would be designed for non-motorized use and would accommodate all non-motorized users including hikers, bikers, and equestrians. Proposed trailheads would be located in the City of Portola and adjacent to the Nakoma Golf Resort/Gold Mountain Community. Coordination has been occurring and would continue to occur with City of Portola and the Nakoma Golf Resort/Gold Mountain Community about trailhead specifications.

In an effort to reduce paper use, the Forest Service will emphasize electronic correspondence throughout the planning of this project. A more detailed description of the proposed project is available online through the Plumas National Forest website at:

https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=52465

The proposed project area and supporting documentation is also available for review at the Beckwourth Ranger District, 23 Mohawk Road, Blairsden, CA 96103 and the Sierraville Ranger District, 317 South Lincoln Street, Sierraville, CA 96126.

Preliminary information indicates that the Beckwourth Peak Recreation Project activities may be categorically excluded from documentation in an Environmental Assessment (EA) or an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) because there are no anticipated extraordinary circumstances and the proposed activities fit into an established category. The proposed activities fall within the scope and intent of the following categorical exclusion category: 36 CFR 220.6(e)(1). Construction and reconstruction of trails.



Comments Welcome

We are currently seeking information, comments, and assistance from State and local Governments, Native American tribes, and other individuals or organizations who may be interested in, or affected by, the proposed management activities. To assist the Forest Service in identifying and considering issues and concerns on the proposed action, written comments should be as specific as possible. In order for your comments to be most useful for informing the planning of this project, we would appreciate receiving them by November 6, 2017. The Forest Service will consider your scoping comments to help identify issues. A decision on this project is expected in the spring of 2018.

Please submit your comments via email to:

comments-pacificsouthwest-plumas-beckwourth@fs.fed.us

Comments submitted electronically must be in plain text (.txt), rich text format (.rtf), portable document format (.pdf), Word (.doc or .docx), or an email message. When submitting your comment electronically, please put "Beckwourth Peak Project" in the subject line.

Hard copy comments may be:

- Mailed to the attention of: Matthew Jedra, Beckwourth District Ranger and/or Quentin Youngblood, Sierraville District Ranger, c/o Lynee Crawford, Beckwourth Ranger District, P.O. Box 7, Blairsden, CA 96103.
- Hand delivered weekdays (except holidays) between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. to the Beckwourth Ranger District, 23 Mohawk Road, Blairsden, CA 96103.
- Faxed to (530) 836-0493.

For additional information concerning this project, please contact, Steve Townley, Project Leader at (530) 836-7126 or Lynée Crawford, Acting District NEPA Planner at (530) 836-7119 or lyneecrawford@fs.fed.us.

We appreciate your interest in public land management.

Sincerely

MATTHEW JEDRA

District Ranger

Enclosure: Beckwourth Peak Recreation Project map